



Van Arty Association and RUSI Van Members News 20 June 2023

Newsletters normally are emailed on Monday evenings. If you don't get a future newsletter on time, check the websites below to see if there is a notice about the current newsletter or to see if the current edition is posted there. If the newsletter is posted, please contact me at bob.mugford@gmail.com to let me know you didn't get your copy.

Newsletter online. This newsletter and previous editions are available on the Vancouver Artillery Association website at: www.vancouvergunners.ca and the RUSI Vancouver website at: <http://www.rusivancouver.ca/newsletter.html>. Both groups are also on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=vancouver%20artillery%20association> and <https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=rusi%20vancouver>

Upcoming events – Mark your calendars

Commemoration Cyprus 2024 – see poster section

June 21 Museum Planning Meeting 0900-1200hrs- at Armoury and on Zoom
RUSI Vancouver AGM 1200hrs on Zoom

June 28 Wed 'Zoom' lunch meeting.

July 20 Support our troops Scholarship program deadline.

July 29/30 Okanagan Military Tattoo

2023 Support Our Troops Scholarship Program

Ends July 20, 2023 - **See Poster section for details.**

2 Japanese Ships, 550 Sailors at Esquimalt Navy Base

Wreath-laying ceremonies held in Esquimalt, Victoria.

Chris Campbell Natasha Baldin/Contributor Victoria News Jun 16, 2023

Two new ships appeared on the horizon in Greater Victoria this week as Japanese Ships (JS) Kashima and Hatakaze of the Japan Maritime Self Defense Force made a friendly port visit to Esquimalt. Part of the Japan Training Squadron, the ships and crews of about 550 sailors visited June 15 to 18 for overseas training and to promote international goodwill. As part of their four-day port visit to Victoria, members of the Japanese Maritime Self Defence Force took part in two wreath-laying ceremonies Friday (June 16) in collaboration with the Royal Canadian Navy. Featuring Japanese and Canadian sailors dressed in white uniforms, ceremonies took place in front of the cenotaph at the BC Legislature and at God's Acre Cemetery in Esquimalt. The

ceremony started with national anthem performances by the Japanese Training Squadron and the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy, followed by The Last Call. At the legislature, representatives laid wreaths at the foot of the cenotaph.



JS Kashima and JS Hatakaze on a training cruise with the US Coast Guard earlier this year.

(Japan Maritime Self Defense Force/Facebook)

The Japanese Training Squadron and the Naden Band of the Royal Canadian Navy performed in front of the BC legislature. (Natasha Baldin/News)



For Royal Canadian Navy Rear Admiral Christopher Robinson, the wreath laying ceremonies are an important practice to commemorate war dead with visiting nations. “They died to protect our freedoms and the ways of life that most Canadians enjoy today, so it’s important we commemorate them in the company of our allies,” he said. He added the cenotaph was a powerful location to commemorate the history of allyship between Japan and Canada. Japanese troops were present in Victoria during the First World War to help protect Canadian soil against potential attacks. “(Japanese soldiers) operated out of Esquimalt in those early days where we weren’t sure

if BC was going to be directly attacked,” he said. “It’s especially poignant to recognize that with our Japanese allies.” Then two ships from the Japan Training Squadron have been docked at the Esquimalt Naval Base for the duration of the crew’s visit. The crew will visit eight different countries as part of its overseas training cruise, with Victoria being the second port of call.

Canada’s First Polar Icebreaker in Over Six Decades

Vanguard Staff, June 11, 2023



Recently, in North Vancouver, BC, Seaspan Shipyards initiated the construction of a ‘Prototype Block,’ signifying a crucial milestone in the Polar Icebreaker Program. Seaspan is currently engaged in the design and construction of Canada’s first heavy Polar Icebreaker in over six decades. This endeavor utilizes the combined expertise of Seaspan’s diverse shipbuilding team and falls under Canada’s National Shipbuilding Strategy (NSS). “The construction of the Prototype Block for the first Polar Icebreaker is an exciting milestone for us at the Canadian Coast Guard. Once completed, the Polar Icebreaker will be sailing in Arctic waters and establishing our sovereignty in the region while supporting critical work such as icebreaking operations, maritime emergencies, Arctic science research, and the safe delivery of goods and services to Northern communities. I am very excited to have arrived at this point and look forward to the start of full-rate production in the coming years,” said Mario Pelletier, Commissioner of the Canadian Coast Guard.



Before commencing full-scale construction on the Polar Icebreaker, Seaspan is developing a Prototype Block to evaluate novel systems, processes, personnel, and tools necessary for working with specialized, thick steel. The ship requires steel plates of up to 60 millimeters thickness to safely navigate the multi-year ice prevalent in the Arctic region. Insights gained from the Prototype Block construction will enhance the quality and efficiency of the design and manufacturing

process when production officially begins in late 2024. “Cutting steel on the Prototype Block is

a key milestone for the Polar Icebreaker Program and demonstrates Seaspan’s capabilities across engineering, design, supply chain, planning and production. The prototype is just one example of the team’s dedication to learning and continuous improvement, as we prepare to commence full rate construction,” said Martin Edwards, Chief Program Officer at Seaspan Shipyards.

Seaspan has already garnered significant experience in constructing Polar Class vessels. Notably, they have delivered three Offshore Fisheries Science Vessels, presently operational with the Canadian Coast Guard. Furthermore, they are currently constructing an Offshore Oceanographic Science Vessel at their Vancouver Shipyards location. Additionally, they are involved in designing a class of sixteen multi-Purpose Vessels, all of which are Polar Class. The



forthcoming Polar Icebreaker is an exceptionally intricate vessel, purpose-built to operate in the ice-laden waters of the Arctic. Its paramount role will be to facilitate the Canadian Coast Guard in patrolling and safeguarding over 162,000 kilometers of Arctic coastline. The Polar Icebreaker’s capabilities will support year-round presence in Canada’s North, benefiting Indigenous Peoples, other northern communities, Arctic sovereignty, high-Arctic scientific endeavors (including climate change research), as well as emergency response operations such as search and rescue missions. As Canada’s largest Icebreaker, the CCGS Louis S St-Laurent, is scheduled for retirement at the end of this decade after six decades of service, the new Polar Icebreaker will rank among the world’s largest and most formidable conventional icebreakers. It will serve as the flagship vessel in the Canadian Coast Guard’s icebreaking fleet, entrusted with the vital task of safeguarding Canada’s Arctic sovereignty.

Rise of the Rocket Launcher 2: Lessons from Ukraine.

Simon Middleton Wavell Room April 26, 2023

It’s been over a year since the release of ‘Rise of the Rocket Launcher: End of the Armored Division’. The premise of the argument was that the future of conventional warfare would be rocket centred and rely heavily on the use of rocket artillery to deliver decisive blows in the deep battle. Russia’s invasion of Ukraine has validated the argument for re-focusing the British Army’s around a core of rocket launchers. This article updates the core arguments presented with observations from Ukraine. The Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU) have correctly employed the gifted British M270 and American HIMARS rocket launchers in the deep battle. The shaping of an ‘anti-climactic’ close fight allowed the manoeuvre arms to mount various successful counter-offensives, seen in both the Kharkiv and Kherson oblasts. In these battles, striking Russian air defence and electronic warfare systems with long range rockets allowed for the use of organic uncrewed aerial systems (UAS) to control and accurately deliver close support artillery.



Craters on the Antonovskiy Bridge over the Dnieper River as a result of poorly weaponized rocket strikes – minimum damage and quickly fixable. AFP/Getty.

There are compelling arguments stemming from Ukraine for fewer humans and more technology. Rise of the Rocket Launcher argued that the British Army should forward mount Special Observers during rising tensions

into high-risk environments. This would allow them to control fires in depth during the initial stages of any conflict, protect vital ground, and disrupt enemy momentum. If Special Observers had been forward mounted during the Kherson offensive in late 2022, for example, their specialist skills in covert surveillance and targeting expertise would have made AFU artillery and rocket strikes more deadly. During this offensive, Russia (successfully) relied upon the Nova Khakovka and Antonovskiy bridges and as few as five ferry crossing points, to cross the Dnieper River and re-enforce its defensive lines. Employed correctly, Special Observers could have monitored this key terrain and directed rocket artillery to strike assembly areas prior to crossing the Dnieper River. Instead, open-source intelligence (OSINT) showed huge numbers of Russian armour moving unchallenged.

Ukrainian analysts have undoubtedly created targetable data based solely on open-source intelligence and exploited the use of social media by Russian soldiers. Civilians throughout Ukraine and partisan networks have also feed into Ukrainian intelligence collect. Dr Matthew Ford discusses the weaponisation of the smart phone, with Ukrainian civilians uploading points of interest to an online system which can be crosschecked with other users or intelligence inputs. Whilst a useful source of information, open source lacks the speed and fidelity a Special Observer provides. Especially if they have an open line of communication to a higher headquarters. This is dependent on civilians having freedom of movement which, as we saw throughout the occupation of Kherson, is likely to be constrained. Social-media and open-source intelligence has a role to play in future targeting, but it should always be one of support to a soldier in the loop. One incorrect assumption of Rise of the Rocket Launcher is that targeting within conventional warfare would be easy based upon the scale of the conflict. In fact, it is as difficult and labor intensive as during counter-insurgency operations. Both Ukraine and Russia are experiencing an ‘intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance gap’, struggling to locate targets in isolation. The Ukrainian front stretches almost 1200km, and whilst it is unlikely the British Army will fight a war of this magnitude alone, the scale on which a modern army needs to find targets must still improve. The British war-fighting division currently has very limited lines of intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance relying heavily on tactical UAS and very limited numbers of Special Observers. The Deep Reconnaissance Strike Brigade Combat Team

is the current 'find cell' of the 3rd (UK) Division but must be significantly improved to be credible against the scale of war.

*Pictured is the Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System (GMLRS) moving to a firing position at Kirkcudbright Ranges.
Credit: MOD.*



Layered operational and strategic lines of intelligence and surveillance, such as RQ4 Global-Hawk or the use of satellite based synthetic aperture radar (SAR), would enable more successful find and strike. The UK, however, must wait until Project Oberon in 2025 for a UK SAR satellite to enter service and until then we must continue to rely on others. A significant uplift in organic signals intelligence (SIGINT) must also be achieved. A key element not yet discussed is the targeting process. During the Ukrainian conflict, open-source information has frequently shown images of individual Russian reconnaissance vehicles in ruins following a HIMARS strike. This displays poor weapon to target matching and is an ineffective use of depth fires assets. Instead of prioritising the speed of the 'kill-chain', a more integrated intelligence led 'Fires-Cycle' would see more effective employment of depth fires assets.¹ British Army targeting cells should develop a pattern of life, track enemy vehicles to larger assembly areas and target in a much more deliberate sense. Without an efficient process, a rocket centred division would be fundamentally flawed.

A recent bot writing for the Wavell Room discussed how artificial intelligence (AI) will be a key facet of future warfare. Theoretically, AI could revolutionise the targeting process by analysing and comparing data, and automatically producing mensurated grids usable by depth fires assets. It is not a stretch to suggest that they will be able to identify enemy vehicles, suggest which should be targeted and provide justification as to both when and why. This will be particularly important as the ability to find enemy positions improves and potentially thousands of points of interest require ingestion, prioritisation and action.

A focus point of Rise of the Rocket Launcher was the modern family of munitions for the HIMARS family. Whilst briefly mentioned, the alternative warhead (AW) was not given its dues. Capable of firing 84km and covering an area of up to 400m squared with 160,000 tungsten fragments, the AW accounts for any micro displacements in enemy locations and inaccuracies in the targeting. This helps quicken the targeting process and ultimately leads to more enemy casualties. One AW missile can achieve the same effect as firing a large open sheath of GMLRS-Unitary missiles, without driving up the cost of war and further burdening the logistics chains. The British Army must remain at the forefront of technological advances and missile

development to truly be able to strike high value depth targets as precisely as possible. It must also, as recently warned by Tobias Ellwood MP, upgrade its stockpiles of ammunition to meet NATO commitments.



Elbit Systems PULS during test firing at White Sands Missile Range.

Credit: Elbit Systems.

Conventional warfare is won and lost in the deep. But the close battle must still be resourced efficiently and artillery will be required to provide mass as well as precision. The British Army's Future Soldier paper promises to 'double the proportion of deployable force that contributes to deep effects' and a 'major investment in world class equipment'. The British Army's M270 GMLRS is proving extremely effective in the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, and many US allies bordering Russia are scrambling to purchase the HIMARS. Despite this, the British Army should not be distracted by HIMARS and should look at a different platform. Finances and logistics are key drivers during kit procurement, and these restrictions can be satisfied through the purchase of the Elbit Systems Precise and Universal Launching System (PULS). The PULS provides flexibility to support both the close and deep battles. The multipurpose launcher is positioned on a cheap frame giving a significant reduction in purchase, maintenance, and training costs. PULS can interchange its two rocket pods to provide 36 rockets at 35km, 20 rockets at 40km, 8 rockets at 150km or 4 rockets at 300km, satisfying the requirements of both mass and precision.

I stand by the original argument for a British rocket division, although there are lessons to be learned from the recent, rocket centred conflict in the Ukraine. Finding the enemy is currently the biggest hurdle. The early deployment of Special Observers, along with investment in operational level intelligence and surveillance capability must accompany a credible rocket division. To strike highly mobile targets in both the close and deep battles, quickly and on mass, the British Army should look to adopt a new universal fires platform such as the Elbit Systems PULS and equip it with an AW style missile capable of firing with less accurate location reporting. This cheaper option would allow for a huge increase in available platforms. Finally, a rocket division must be underpinned by intelligence led doctrine to maximise effect in the deep battle. It should be open to AI based autonomous processes and the weaponisation of social media in support of targeting. If these conditions are met, the British Army would have a more flexible and credible fighting division, ready for modern conventional conflict. With depth fires

assets quickly becoming the currency of power for militaries across the world, the time for change is now.

Ukraine Allies Sent 1550 Combat Vehicles, Vast Stocks of Ammo

David Rising and Lorne Cook, AP Military News Apr 27, 2023



A Ukrainian soldier holds his helmet as he rides an APC in Bakhmut, in the Donetsk region, Ukraine, Wednesday, April 26, 2023. (AP Photo/Libkos)

KYIV, Ukraine — NATO allies and partner countries have delivered more than 98% of the combat vehicles promised to Ukraine during Russia’s invasion and war, the military alliance’s chief said Thursday, giving Kyiv a bigger punch as contemplates launching a counteroffensive. Along with more than 1,550 armored vehicles, 230 tanks and other equipment, Ukraine’s allies have sent “vast amounts of ammunition” and also trained and equipped more than nine new Ukrainian brigades, NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said. More than 30,000 troops are estimated to make up the new brigades. Some NATO partner countries, such as Sweden and Australia, have also provided armored vehicles. “This will put Ukraine in a strong position to continue to retake occupied territory,” Stoltenberg told reporters in Brussels.

His comments came a day after Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said he and Chinese leader Xi Jinping had a “long and meaningful” phone call in their first known contact since Russia’s full-scale invasion more than a year ago. Though Zelenskyy said he was encouraged by Wednesday’s call and Western officials welcomed Xi’s move, the development didn’t appear to bring about any immediate shift in peace prospects. Russia and Ukraine are far apart in their terms for peace, and Beijing — while looking to position itself as a global diplomatic power — has refused to criticize Moscow’s invasion. The Chinese government sees Russia as a diplomatic ally in opposing US influence in global affairs, and Xi visited Moscow last month. Stoltenberg said the 31 NATO allies were committed to shoring up Ukraine’s military, adding that taking back land occupied by the Kremlin’s forces would give Kyiv a stronger negotiating position if peace talks occur.

Ukrainian officials said China’s overture was encouraging. Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal on Thursday described the call between Xi and Zelenskyy as “very productive.” “I’m convinced it is a good beginning for our relations in the future,” Shmyhal said after visiting Pope Francis at the Vatican. But the Kremlin’s response was lukewarm. Asked if the call could help end the

fighting, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters: “We are ready to welcome anything that could lead to the termination of the conflict in Ukraine and the achievement of all the goals set by Russia.” Peskov said the conversation between the Chinese and Ukrainian leaders was “the sovereign business of those countries and the issue of their bilateral dialogue.” With battlefield positions in Ukraine largely static as a war of attrition took hold in recent months, Russian forces have kept up their bombardment of Ukrainian areas, often hitting apartment buildings and other civilian infrastructure. At least seven civilians were killed and 33 were injured between Wednesday and Thursday, Ukraine’s presidential office said Thursday. They included one person killed and 23 wounded, including a child, when four Kalibr cruise missiles hit the southern city of Mykolaiv, official said. The governor of Mykolaiv province, Vitalii Kim, said 22 multi-story buildings, 12 private houses and other residential buildings were damaged in the attack. Kalibr missiles are launched from ships or submarines, The ones that hit Mykolaiv were fired from somewhere in the Black Sea, according to Ukraine’s Operational Command South.

Vancouver Gunners Website Update

Military Medal Award with bar. Gunner Hugh Miller, MM with bar was a member of 31st Battery, 8th Brigade, Canadian Field Artillery, CEF and remained with the battery as it was reorganized with 9th Brigade. History in The Royal Regiment of Canadian Artillery is retained at the Battery level which provides the connection with today’s 31 Battery, 15th Field Artillery Regiment, RCA. Check out the story here:

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/military-medal-award3175144>

Military Medal Award with two bars. Corporal Oswald Reid, MM with 2 bars was also a member of the 31st Battery, Canadian Field Artillery, CEF during the First World War. One of his citations can be found here.

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/military-medal-with-two-bars>

18 Pounder Gun. Doug Knight's "The 18-pounder Field Gun in Canadian Service" has been uploaded to the Vancouver Gunners reference page. Check out the details here:

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/18-pounder-field-gun>

Yorke Island One Day Adventure. Are you interested in flying to Yorke Island on a Saturday? We still need to confirm a date but here’s some information to check out.

<https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/yorke-island-one-day-adventure>

Museum Planning Meeting 21 June 2023. A morning planning meeting will be held from 0900h to 1200h at Bessborough Armoury on Wednesday, 21 June. We will be discussing the near term (2023) as well as some much longer-term possibilities, suggestions, plans and projects for our regimental museum. Participation of current volunteers, and those that wish to assist the museum in the future, is welcome and we look forward to a very productive and useful morning discussion. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/museum-planning-meeting>

Shilo Artillery Reunion 29 June to 2 July 2023. You can find some more details on the linked page. <https://www.vancouvergunners.ca/whats-new/rca-reunion>

Wednesday Lunch. Join us to check up on your old lunch buddies. Click on this link:- This is a new link!

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71810323784?pwd=ehLJDhj9zIqI0HvnBIMCYmw0p6ZDwe.1>

or use <https://zoom.us/j/71810323784> or use Meeting ID 718 1032 3784 and the secret passcode is 6L6qz0 (fourth digit is a lower case Q and the last digit is a Zero) **Remember – Stay healthy and stay safe! No lunch meeting this week the RUSI AGM is being held at that time. Lunch meetings resume on June 28**

Who (or What) Is It?

Last Week: The Garnier-Renault SPG. The French military began looking at creating SPGs in the early 1930s. This was a pivotal moment for the French tank industry. The army was torn between medium Renault D2 tanks and Char B "battle tanks". The idea of a "guard tank" (char de protection) or Anti Tank Gun, was mentioned in documents for the first time in April of 1932. According to the concept proposed by General Herr this would be a special armoured vehicle armed with a 47 or 75 mm gun. General Bezout, the chief inspector of tanks, refined the concept in July of 1932. According to him, this task required an SPG armed with a 75 mm gun. This kind of gun would allow it to destroy enemy tanks from a range of 800-1000 meters.



The SPG in general, as well as its gun mount, was designed by APX. General Eugène François Gilbert Garnier directed the development, as he had great experience with towed and self-propelled artillery. APX had no suitable chassis, so a choice had to be made among prototypes offered by other companies. The Renault VA medium tank, also known as the Renault D3, was considered most suitable. This vehicle was designed for export and was therefore known as a "colonial tank". Since potential customers had no interest in the tank, it seemed logical to use it to make an SPG. The vehicle was called Garnier-Renault, after its inventor and the chassis that it used. This was a worthy vehicle for its time. Its armour was 35-45 mm thick, which reliably protected it from anti-tank artillery that existed at the time. The SPG was armed with a 75 mm L/30 APX gun. The mount allowed it very generous elevation angles. The ammunition capacity of 160 rounds was sufficient.

However, there was one serious issue: the Renault D3 chassis. According to the requirements, the 20-ton vehicle had to reach a speed of 25 kph, but its actual speed was much less. In June 1934, when the work on the conversion was approaching completion, General Garnier was already sceptical. By 1935, he designed a new SPG. At a mass of 21 tons, it had 50 mm of armour. The mobility also improved. A 260 hp diesel engine would allow it to accelerate to 36 kph. The cruising range also increased from 140 to 400 km. A radio station and a radio operator, which were absent from the Garnier-Renault, were also added. Unfortunately, this project remained on paper.

This Week: We return to the ground this week, and resume our popular series “What’s That Gun?” Many of you have guns in your possession, sometimes in proper storage, sometimes under your bed, or behind the front door, waiting for Trudeau to show up and try to take away the Maxim Gun your great uncle brought back from the Second Kikapoo War. If you belong to one or both of the latter two categories, please reach out to the editor for help. For the rest of you, those who have a healthy respect for, but interest in military firearms, we are introducing a fairly interesting model to you in this week’s quiz. The mounting and design of the barrel, with its cooling fins, marks it as something most likely from between the wars, as earlier machine guns often relied on water cooling, whilst more modern weapons have designs that mitigate against excessive build-up of heat.



These cooling fins did actually work but added greatly to the weight of the weapon. Nonetheless, several machine guns using the technology saw widespread use, such as the Japanese Type 3 Heavy MG, and the Types 96 and 99 Light Machine Guns, all of which saw extensive service during World War Two, and afterwards with many local East and South East Asian forces. Interestingly, this design feature was not employed by our forces, save for one model, possibly because it was foreign, and therefore suspect, or maybe not.

So, dear NRA supporters, can you identify our little piece of kit? Who used it the most, Leutonia or Lusitania, or maybe someone else? Also, what is it that connects this weapon to those used by our plucky lads? If you know, and are not now in police custody, send your answers to the editor, Bob Mugford (bob.mugford@gmail.com), or the still-at-large author, John Redmond (johnd.redmond@telus.net). Straight shooting and tight lines!

From the ‘Punitentary’

Why are fish such terrible basketball players? They’re afraid of the net.

Murphy’s Other Laws

Many people are alive only because it's illegal to shoot them.

Quotable Quotes

Work hard in silence, let your success be your noise. - *Frank Ocean*

Wednesday Digital Video Lunch

No lunch meetings on June 21 as RUSI Vancouver AGM being held on that day.

No need to worry about COVID-19 when you go digital. Pop into our video lunch **at noon** on Wednesdays and say hi. All you need is a laptop, tablet or smartphone. These sessions are being hosted by the Vancouver Artillery Association and are **open to all – especially those who attended our Wednesday lunches.**

Join us to check up on your old lunch buddies.

Click on this link:- **[This is a new link and password!](#)**

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/71810323784?pwd=ehLJDhj9zlc10HvnBIMCYmw0p6ZDwe.1>

or use <https://zoom.us/j/71810323784>

or use Meeting ID 718 1032 3784 **and the secret passcode is 6L6qz0** (fourth digit is a lower case Q and the last digit is a Zero)



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Invite 2 friends! We have room for 100! See you on Wednesdays at noon. Bring your own lunch and beverage of choice.

Attendance at this meeting is falling off. If you haven't been on for a while, we miss you so come back and join us.

Okanagan Military Tattoo



July 29 & 30, 2023 Kal Tire Place/ Vernon, BC

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24 April 2023

Distribution List

2023 SUPPORT OUR TROOPS
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR
FAMILIES OF CURRENTLY SERVING
CANADIAN ARMED FORCES
MEMBERS AND VETERANS

1. This letter announces details of the 2023 Support Our Troops Scholarship Program available to families of currently serving members of the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) and veterans for the 2023/24 academic year. This program is made possible through Support Our Troops, the official charitable cause of the CAF Community. Support Our Troops is supported by donations from individual Canadians, contributions from third party events and external organizations and proceeds from the sale of Yellow Ribbon merchandise. This Program is intended to complement but not duplicate other scholarship programs offered to the CAF Community.

2. This year (2023) represents the ninth year of the Support Our Troops Scholarship Program whereby eligible families of currently serving members of the CAF, families of veterans and bereaved families may qualify to receive a scholarship. At this time, a minimum of seventy-five (75) scholarships are available, ranging between \$500 and \$5000 in value.

Le 24 avril 2023

Liste de distribution

PROGRAMME DE BOURSES D'ÉTUDES
D'APPUYONS NOS TROUPES DE 2023
POUR LES FAMILLES DES MEMBRES
ACTIFS ET DES VÉTÉRANS
DES FORCES ARMÉES CANADIENNES

1. La présente a pour but de vous faire part des détails entourant le Programme de bourses d'études d'Appuyons nos troupes de 2023 offert aux familles des membres actifs et des vétérans des Forces armées canadiennes (FAC) pour l'année scolaire 2023-2024. Ce programme existe grâce à Appuyons nos troupes, l'œuvre de bienfaisance officielle de la communauté des FAC. Appuyons nos troupes est financé au moyen de dons versés par des particuliers au Canada, de revenus générés par des activités organisées par des tiers, de la vente d'articles arborant le ruban jaune et de contributions d'organisations de l'extérieur. Ce programme vise à compléter et non à offrir en double d'autres programmes de bourses d'études destinés aux membres de la communauté des FAC.

2. Cette année (2023) marque la neuvième année du Programme de bourses d'études d'Appuyons nos troupes grâce auquel des familles endeuillées ainsi que celles des membres actifs et des vétérans des FAC peuvent être admissibles à une bourse d'études. À ce stade-ci, un minimum de soixante-quinze (75) bourses d'études variant de 500 \$ à 5000 \$ seront décernées.

3. Registration for the 2023 Support Our Troops Scholarship Program will open on 1 May 2023 at

<https://www.supportourtroops.ca/Get-Support/Education/Scholarships>

4. Applications must be submitted by 20 July 2023 and are to include:

- a. three-part essay;
- b. A letter of reference;
- c. Most recent academic transcript;
- d. Proof of enrollment from academic institution;
- e. A point form list of volunteer/civic engagement activities.

5. Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee and recipients of a Support Our Troops Scholarship will be announced in September 2023.

6. Members of the CAF Community looking for additional financial support related to post-secondary education are encouraged to learn more about [Student Lines of Credit](#) and to [book an appointment](#) with a lending expert from BMO Bank of Montreal.

3. Nous accepterons les demandes dans le cadre du Programme de bourses d'études d'Appuyons nos troupes de 2023 à compter du 1^{er} mai 2023 au

<https://www.appuyonsnostroupes.ca/Obtenir-du-soutien/Bourses-d-etudes>.

4. La date limite de soumission d'une demande est le 20 juillet 2023, et celle-ci doit comprendre :

- a. Une dissertation divisée en trois parties;
- b. une lettre de recommandation;
- c. le relevé de notes le plus récent;
- d. une attestation d'inscription à un établissement d'enseignement;
- e. une liste en style télégraphique des activités de bénévolat/d'engagement communautaire.

5. Un comité de sélection examinera les demandes, et les noms des récipiendaires d'une bourse d'études d'Appuyons nos troupes seront dévoilés en septembre 2023.

6. Les membres de la communauté des FAC qui désirent obtenir du soutien financier supplémentaire afin de poursuivre des études postsecondaires sont priés de se renseigner sur les [marges-crédits aux étudiants](#) et de [prendre rendez-vous](#) avec un expert en matière de prêts de la BMO Banque de Montréal.

7. In addition to the scholarships identified above, Support Our Troops also administers and distributes bursaries from the annual interest generated from the George and Helen Vari Foundation Education Bursary Program. Active members of the CAF who meet eligibility criteria may apply. For more information, please visit: <https://www.supportourtroops.ca/Get-Support/Education/George-and-Helen-Vari-Foundation-Education-Bursary>

8. CFMWS welcomes other donations and contributions to help deliver and expand the Support Our Troops Scholarship Program. Persons interested in this regard are encouraged to visit the Support Our Troops at <https://www.supportourtroops.ca/Give-Support> for more information.

9. I ask for your support in ensuring that the contents of this letter are widely distributed.

7. En plus des bourses mentionnées ci-dessus, Appuyons nos troupes administre et distribue aussi les bourses en fonction des intérêts annuels que génère le programme de bourses d'études de la Fondation George et Helen Vari. Les membres en service actif des Forces armées canadiennes admissibles peuvent en faire la demande. Pour en savoir plus, veuillez visiter: <https://www.supportourtroops.ca/Get-Support/Education/George-and-Helen-Vari-Foundation-Education-Bursary>

8. Les SBMFC invitent toute personne intéressée à verser un don en vue d'assurer la prestation du Programme de bourses d'études d'Appuyons nos troupes et d'en élargir la portée. Les personnes intéressées sont invitées consulter le site d'Appuyons nos troupes au <https://www.appuyonsnostroupes.ca/Apport-er-du-soutien> pour en savoir plus.

9. Je vous demande votre appui pour veiller à ce que la présente soit distribuée à grande échelle.

Le chef de la direction des
Services de bien-être et moral des Forces canadiennes



Ian C. Poulter
Chief Executive Officer
Canadian Forces Morale and Welfare Services

THE ARMY CADET LEAGUE OF CANADA (BRITISH COLUMBIA)



17 May 2023

Dear Sir/Ma'am;

The Army Cadet League of Canada, British Columbia Branch is seeking out assistance from our Regimental Association partners. The BC Branch urgently needs volunteers to assist the Branch as Zone Representatives across British Columbia.

A BC Branch Zone representative is a liaison between the BC Branch and the Corps Support Committee. We work with Support Committees in all 47 BC Army Cadet Corps to ensure that they are trained and knowledgeable in their roles to assist our DND Partners. This will ensure the ACLC can deliver the best possible experience in all of BC's diverse communities and ensure harmonious Corps Operations.

As a Branch Zone Representative, we ask you to make regular contact with the Corps Support Committee by attending meetings, award presentations, and Corps events as required. The Branch will also host an online bi-monthly meeting to provide updates from the Branch and to keep communication open.

We hope you can volunteer with us and make a difference in the Army Cadet Program and your community.

If you are interested in volunteering with the BC Branch, please contact me, the Executive Director for more information.

We thank you for your assistance;

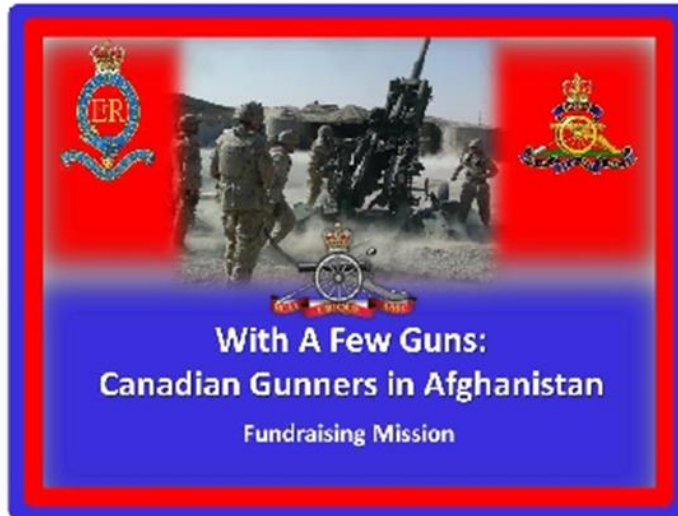
Sincerely;

Elisabeth Mortlock
Executive Director
ACLC BC Branch

724 Vanalman Avenue, Victoria BC V8Z 3B5 250-708-0281 execdir@armycadetleague.bc.ca
<https://britishcolumbia.armycadetleague.ca/>

With a Few Guns

“With a Few Guns” Calling For Support! Donate Now!



With a Few Guns will be an accounting of the contribution Canadian Gunners made to operations in Afghanistan from initial deployment in 2002 until withdrawal in March 2014. The book will not be an “official history” but will tell the story of the approximately 3,000 Gunners who served in Afghanistan, Regular Force and Reserves, in any and all positions, in any and all functions, as well as the stories of commanders and supported arms, and Gunner families.

We have three accomplished and exceptional authors:

Lieutenant-Colonel (Retired) Brian Reid

Colonel (Retired) Wolf Riedel

Mr. Mark Zuehlke

We are launching this fundraising initiative to cover expenses and get the book published, while keeping the price affordable. *With a Few Guns* is being written with the backing of the RCA Association, and all donations will be eligible for a tax receipt. Any monies donated in excess of what is needed will remain with the RCAA for support to the causes as espoused by the RCAA.

Our MISSION is to raise \$75,000 (+)

Questions may be directed to: WithAFewGuns@gmail.com

To Donate:

Go to: <https://rca-arc.org/>

Scroll down to: **Donate**

Go to : The Royal Canadian Artillery Association

Then donate to: RCAA Donation "With a Few Guns"

Commemoration Cyprus 2024



Commemoration Chypre 2024



Commemoration Cyprus 2024



Mission

...commémorer la contribution du Canada à la mission de l'ONU à Chypre à l'occasion du 50e anniversaire de la guerre de 1974.

...commemorate Canada's contribution to the UN mission in Cyprus on the 50th anniversary of the 1974 war.



WHAT - Cyprus 2024 Pilgrimage.

GOAL - to capture the history and stories from those who served in Cyprus with emphasis on the actions that took place during the 1974 war, **A FORGOTTEN WAR.**

WHEN - November 2024.

WHO - All Cyprus and Canadian Airborne Regiment Veterans and family members.

WHERE - Nicosia Cyprus, lodged at the Hilton Hotel.

COST - Pay as you go trip with individual costs in the \$5000 to 6000 range. Costs covered will include airfare, hotel with breakfast and expenses such as transportation.

TRAVEL - Will be arranged by professional travel agents, with pre and post tour travel options available.

PROGRAM - Seven days: three days of battlefield tours, three days of excursions, and one day of Remembrance.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND UPDATES ARE AVAILABLE BY JOINING THE CYPRUS 2024 FACEBOOK GROUP [Cyprus2024 | Facebook](#)

QUOI - Pèlerinage à Chypre 2024.

OBJECTIF - capturer l'histoire et les récits de ceux qui ont servi à Chypre en mettant l'accent sur les actions qui ont eu lieu là pendant la guerre de 1974, **UNE GUERRE OUBLIÉE.**

QUAND - Novembre 2024.

QUI - Tous les vétérans de Chypre, du Régiment aéroporté canadien et les membres de leurs familles.

OÙ - Nicosie Chypre, logés à l'hôtel Hilton.

COÛT - Voyage à la carte avec des coûts individuels inclus, environ \$5000 et 6000. Les coûts comprendront le billet d'avion, l'hôtel avec petit-déjeuner et les dépenses telles que le transport.

VOYAGE - Sera organisé par des agents de voyage professionnels, avec options de voyage avant et après la réunion.

PROGRAMME - Sept jours: trois jours de visites du champ de bataille, trois jours d'excursions et une journée du Souvenir.

PLUS D'INFORMATIONS ET MISES À JOUR SONT DISPONIBLES EN REJOIGNANT LE GROUPE FACEBOOK CYPRUS 2024 [Cyprus2024 | Facebook](#)

